Message Text

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DRAFTED BY P:JJSISCO:RR APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY NEA- MR. ATHERTON S/S -FVORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECRETSTATE 171272

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN MILITARY MOVEMENT

FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS FROM SISCO

- 1. WHILE WE ARE AWAITING DETAILS FROM TOON, SHALEV HAS JUST INFORMED US THAT ISRAELIS HAVE EVIDENCE, WHICH THEY CONSIDER HARD EVIDENCE, THAT EGYPT INFANTRY TROOPS "IN RELATIVELY LARGE NUMBERS" HAVE CROSSED TO THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE CANAL. SUCH A MOVEMENT OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. SHALEV ALSO SAID ISRAELIS HAVE EVIDENCE OF A LARGE CONCENTRATION OF TANKS ON THE WEST BANK OF THE SUEZ CANAL. SHALEV ALSO MENTIONED AN EGYPTIAN FLOTILLA MOVING DOWN THE GULF OF SUEZ TOWARD BABALMANDEB AND APPEARED TO VIEW THIS MOVEMENT IN THE SAME CONTEXT.
- 2. FOR TEL AVIV: TOON SHOULD SUBMIT ANY FURTHER DETAILS SECRET

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IMMEDIATELY TO THE DEPARTMENT AND REPEAT FOR INFORMATION

TO CAIRO.

3. FOR CAIRO: WITHOUT ATTRIBUTING THE ABOVE TO ISRAELI SOURCES, AMBASSADOR SHOULD CALL FAHMI IMMEDIATELY SAYING

THAT WE HAVE INFORMATION REGARDING TROOP CROSSINGS AND TANK CONCENTRATIONS WHICH CONCERN US AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION WHICH FAHMI WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE US AND ANY OBSERVATIONS WHICH HE FEELS MIGHT CLARIFY THE SITUATION. WE DO NOT BELIEVE YOU OUGHT TO MENTION THE FLOTILLA, WHICH MAY WELL BE ONLY COINCIDENTAL, AND IN MAKING THE ABOVE INQUIRY, YOU SHOULD ALSO BEAR IN MIND THAT THE CONCENTRATION OF THE TANKS ON THE WEST BANK OF THE SUEZ IS NOT A VIOLATION OF THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. KISSINGER

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To: CAIRO TEL AVIV

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